

**Executive Order 2005-28**  
**Increasing Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs**

**WHEREAS**, there is a burgeoning number of people in Arizona that have no health care insurance, including prescription drug coverage; and

**WHEREAS**, retail prescription drug prices continue to increase at faster than the rate of inflation throughout Arizona and the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the increase in prescription drug prices places a severe financial burden on uninsured persons, which causes them to go without needed medications; and

**WHEREAS**, even persons with prescription drug coverage can have restricted access to certain medications because of formularies used by many plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the State's CoppeRx Card<sup>SM</sup> program, which arose as a result of Executive Order 2003-03, has saved seniors and medically disabled persons in Arizona over \$11.5 million; and

**WHEREAS**, it is possible to extend the savings offered under the CoppeRx Card<sup>SM</sup> to non-Medicare-eligible populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System ("AHCCCS") is charged with administering a system of contracts for the provision of medical care coverage, including pharmaceuticals, to eligible persons as well as with reducing the costs and utilization of the AHCCCS system; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing access to affordable prescription drugs results in a healthier population that is better able to afford the costs of its own health care and therefore reduces long term utilization and costs of the AHCCCS program;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, hereby order and direct as follows:

1. AHCCCS is hereby directed to develop and implement a plan for offering a prescription drug discount card program, comparable to the CoppeRx Card<sup>SM</sup>, to all Arizonans, regardless of age or Medicare eligibility status
2. Any such discount card program approved by AHCCCS shall comply with all state laws, including procurement laws, and shall be implemented entirely through expenditures of funds from the private entity selected by AHCCCS to offer the discount card program.

3. AHCCCS shall have the right to license the CoppeRx Card<sup>SM</sup> name to the entity selected to offer the discount card program contemplated by this Order.
4. AHCCCS shall endeavor to have the discount card program contemplated by this Order in place and available for Arizonans by January 1, 2006.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

*Jan Napolitano*  
**GOVERNOR**

Done at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October in the Year Two Thousand and Five and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirtieth.

**ATTEST:**

*Janice K. Brewer*  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**